

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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PASS ASSIST SEC ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT MTN GENEVA 8802 ACTION SECSTATE MEXICO
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TAGS:ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: MTN: CANADIAN TRILATERAL SAFEGUARD "PROPOSAL"

1. DURING COORDINATION SESSION PRIOR TO SAFEGUARDS
MEETING, MTN DEL PRESSED CANADA (GREY) ONCE MORE
TO GIVE US SOME DETAILS ON WHAT IT HAS IN MIND FOR
POSSIBLE CANADA-U.S.-MEXICO TRILATERAL SAFEGUARDS
ARRANGEMENT CANADIANS HAVE BEEN ALLUDING TO SINCE
EARLY THIS YEAR. WE SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE USEFUL
TO HAVE ANY SPECIFIC IDEAS IN HAND SOON, AS U.S.
INTERAGENCY WORK WAS CLOSING IN ON GENERAL SAFEGUARDS
PROPOSAL AND WOULD NEED TO SEE HOW CANADIAN IDEAS
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MIGHT FIT IN.

2. GREY RESPONDED THAT PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT BE DEALT WITH IN SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WERE OF THE SEASONAL, LARGELY HORTICULTURAL, TYPE. WHOLE QUESTION OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLE TARIFFS HAD BEEN REFERRED TO THE CANADIAN TARIFF BOARD FOR ITS ADVICE, WHICH GREY HAD EARLIER EXPECTED TO HAVE IN HAND BY NOW. HOWEVER, HE WAS RECENTLY INFORMED THAT THIS ADVICE WOULD BE DELAYED UNTIL AT LEAST MARCH 1976. (IMPLICATION, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT DRAW IT, WAS THAT SPECIFIC PROPOSAL ON TRILATERAL WOULD THUS BE DELAYED UNTIL AT LEAST THAT TIME.)

3. IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, GREY THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR CANADIAN DELEGATION TO PUT TOGETHER A WORKING MEMORANDUM DESCRIBING RECENT CASES WHICH WOULD SERVE AS BACKGROUND FOR THEIR POSSIBLE PROPOSALS. THIS MEMO COULD HELP REACH SOME BASIC UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DELEGATIONS AS TO THE HISTORY/CHRONOLOGY OF THESE TRADE PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY THOSE SINCE THE 1970 TOWE-RENNER EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ESTABLISHING SPECIFIC U.S.-CANADA CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS.

4. WE RESPONDED THAT A MEMO FROM CANADIAN DEL WOULD BE GOOD IDEA ALTHOUGH WE COULD NOT GUARANTEE ANY PROCESS OF REACHING AGREEMENT AMONG THE DELEGATIONS. WE WERE MORE INTERESTED IN GETTING SOME INSIGHTS INTO WHAT SPECIFICALLY THEY MIGHT PROPOSE FOR THE TRILATERAL, AND GETTING THEM IN TIME TO CRANK INTO OUR OWN DEVELOPMENT OF A PROPOSAL. (OR ALTERNATIVELY, TO ASCERTAIN THAT THEY WOULD NEED TO BE HANDLED AS A SEPARATE QUESTION.)

5. CANADIANS HAVE DISCUSSED THEIR TRILATERAL IDEA WITH MEXICANS AND EXPECT TO KEEP THEM INFORMED. GREY DID NOT YET ENVISAGE, HOWEVER, DOING ANY MORE TO BRING MEXICANS INTO THE DISCUSSION.

6. ACTION: MTN DEL WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON AGENCIES POUCHING ANY EXISTING INFORMATION ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CASES OR BACKGROUND LIKELY TO BE COVERED IN CANADIAN MEMO DESCRIBED PARA 3. WE WILL FORWARD COPY THAT MEMO WHENEVER WE RECEIVE IT FROM CANADIAN MTN DEL. WE HAVE NO PRESENT INTENTION, HOWEVER, OF TRYING REACH "AGREEMENT" WITH CANADIANS EVEN ON FACTS UNTIL WE HAVE FULL FACTUAL BACKGROUND AS SEEN FROM U.S. SIDE, AS WELL AS SOME INDICATION WASHINGTON THINKING ON HOW SEASONAL PROBLEMS WILL BE HANDLED IN EVENTUAL U.S.

SAFEGUARDS PROPOSAL AND HOW SEPARATE BI- OR TRILATERAL
ARRANGEMENT
MIGHT RELATE TO THIS. WALKER UNQTE KISSINGER

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